

The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

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BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DOWNTOWN EDITION

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D'OH!

Day-old donuts dunked

Ridge pastry lovers are safe — for now



Chock Full of Nuts franchise owner Frank Montes says his donuts will be fresh as a spring day.

By Matthew Lysiak

The Brooklyn Paper

A Bay Ridge Chock Full of Nuts was recently shut down after it was discovered that the popular coffee franchise was selling stale donuts acquired from a competitor.

The shutdown occurred on July 9, three months after the rogue coffee shop's nefarious ways earned it a mention in The Brooklyn Paper's "Yellow Hooker" column. With the closure, the franchise's corporate headquarters and main offices investigated whether the store on Third Avenue near 79th Street was indeed selling stale Dunkin' Donuts products to unknowing customers.

Chock Full franchise executives sent in a spy to verify all-legitatem according to a donut source, who wished to remain nameless.

What the spy discovered was stranger than fiction, according to the source: The Chock Full owner had befriended a Dunkin' Donuts owner and arranged for leftover Dunkin' cutters, twists and other treats to escape the trash and go instead to the display case at Chock Full.

It was a mystery, the source said. "The higher-ups got word of the situation that the guy down, and handed it to someone they knew was reliable."

That someone is now owner Frank Montes, who took the Chock Full with another Joe Family.

"Let me just say that for me it was not in compliance with the Chock Full of Nuts," said Montes, who runs three successful Chock Full of Nuts in Staten Island.

"It is not secret that they were selling donuts from

"the economy side," he responded. [last Saturday] has been great," Montes added. "But it was clear when I took that part of my job would be damage control."

Indeed, no one was fooled by the confectionery bait-and-switch — certainly not the donut savvy residents of Bay Ridge.

"I knew that it was Dunkin' Donuts from the minute I saw it," said Staten Island resident and fan Lisa Tizzisillo. "It was so obvious: Chock Full of Nuts even left the Dunkin' Donuts labels on their display case."

Tizzisillo also didn't like the fact that the donuts were stale — but is willing to give the new owner a fresh start.

"The place looks like it has been cleaned up now," she said.



Pool with a view

The Floating Pool Lady barge at the foot of Joralemon Street in Brooklyn Heights is welcoming Brooklynites like Amanda, Rob and Matthew Rowan, to its cool water and skyline view. But the 174-person-capacity pool's sojourn off the Brooklyn coast is fleeting. After Labor Day, the pool will close; next summer, it may open in the South Bronx, which sought the pool this summer, but lost out to operators of the Brooklyn Bridge Park waterfront development. The state-run project is under pressure to demonstrate that it will be a park first and a luxury condo neighborhood second.

— Dana Rubinstein

Stop naming names CB2 moves to curb street co-names

By Claire Levenson
for The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklynites' community board, citing a rash of requests, is poised to make it tougher to co-name streets after everyday people.

At a meeting last month, Community Board 2's transportation committee voted unanimously in favor of new application criteria: Co-naming requests will only be accepted three years after the person's death and the board will review name changes every five years.

Community Chairwoman John Dew said the recent vote reflected the board has received too many demands to co-name streets for people whose impact on the community seemed limited.

"There is a sense that it has gotten out of hand," said Dew, during the June 19 meeting at St. Francis College on Remsen (and, for now, only Remsen).

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Roller mug on Fulton Mall

By Chris Cascaramo
for The Brooklyn Paper

84th Precinct

A disabled woman was robbed of her handbag by a purse snatcher and a Roller-blading teen on July 12.

The 55-year-old woman was walking on Fulton Street, near Bridge Street, when a woman approached her and snatched the victim's purse right off her wallet.

When the victim tried to retrieve the purse, the thief tossed it over to a teenage boy on Rollerblades who snatched it.

The boy had obtained \$300.

Swiped cards

A thief made off with stash of valuable trading cards last month from an Atlantic Avenue store.

The teenager snatched two binders full of Yu-Gi-Oh cards while the store's clerk was organizing them. The clerk gave chase, but lost the card-carrying thief, who had made off with \$3,000 in fantasy trading cards.

The regular said the thief was a regular at the store, which is near the corner of Smith Street, and has not been identified.

Beat up!

A teenager was attacked and beaten by two men near the corner of Smith and Washington Streets on July 7.

The teen, who began pleading with the men to stop, was swinging a police siren in the hopes of scaring the police, according to police said.

The lot, which is near Hall Street, was robbed at 2:30 pm. Police have made one arrest so far, but have not recovered the truck.

The beating left him with broken bones around his eye and abrasions on his face.

Missing moto

A man's motorcycle was stolen on July 10 while he was in court.

The man told police that he had parked his 2004 Kawasaki at Smith and Green Avenue streets before heading into the courthouse. When the 33-year-old returned, the \$15,000 bike was gone.

The man, who was identified as Robert, had obtained \$500.

Co-worker?

The man who took the jewelry, but the evidence, too.

After taking a man's expensive gold chain — last seen on a desk in the 8th Floor of the office building — the crook then took the footage of the crime right out of the DVD recorder that the man just bought it.

The ring, gold chain and cross, valued at \$8,000, went missing about 2:30 pm from the building, which is near Jay Street.

The regular said the thief was a regular at the store, which is near the corner of Smith Street, and has not been identified.

88th Precinct

Mover violation

Apparently, the guy really needed help moving his car.

Someones snatched in the Park Avenue lot of a company that specializes in renting moving trucks and storage units, and the head-duty bashed in July 7.

The lot, which is near Hall Street, was robbed at 2:30 pm. Police have made one arrest so far, but have not recovered the truck.

Police don't know why the truck was set on fire, maybe to cover a crime — but the week that followed the blaze, the auto carcass has been set on a dump truck ground.

People don't think it's a ploy that they can get away with dumping things, so they dump things," said one of the movers.

The week after the fire, nothing was a week after the fire, nothing of garbage had been picked up.

First came an assortment of forsaken business supplies, including a Formica display case

POLICE BLOTTER

Tug 'o' bag

A mugger made off with a woman's purse on July 10, partly the reason for the break-in.

The 38-year-old victim was walking on Green Avenue at around midnight. As she approached Clermont Avenue, the perp came up from behind and

grabbed her handbag.

The woman wasn't about to let him have it, and they pulled back and forth until the mugger broke off with the bag.

There was no money in the bag, but the mugger got a \$600 cellphone.

Cap o' luxury

An argument between a pair of sisters in Brooklyn took a violent turn on July 12.

The verbal dispute, which occurred in the courtyard of a building on Fulton Street, between Adeline and Clemencia, got physical when the woman broke a bottle and went after the sisters, according to police.

One was struck in the nose, and the other was naked across her face, causing abrasions on her eyes.

The police said the two area and the two sisters in a nearby corner. She resisted arrest, violently flailing her arm about, cops said.

Beggar basher

A beggar slugged a man in the face and then demanded his request for a dollar on July 12.

The victim was walking on Carlton Avenue between Atlantic Avenue and Fulton Street at around 4:30 pm when a beggar approached and asked for the buck.

When the man declined, the panhandler punched him in the face, hard enough to cause swelling and bleeding from the mouth, cops said.

The victim ran off without getting his dollar.

— with Harry Chafee

Hook is burning

The Brooklyn Paper

Photo by G. C. G.

A burnt-out car in Red Hook.

and some crates filled with packing from new auto parts.

A day earlier, a car.

boat of dry-cells religious

services was left on the cracked

sidewalk next to the church.

St. Andrew's Church, the

condition and a paperback biography of Mother Theresa lying

nearby.

The Bed-Stuy resident said

the abandoned car — and the

mini-dump it has spawned — re-

mained the victim of an abandoned city

plan to build a waste-transfer

station at the end of the street.

"Dumping a waste-transfer

station is like furniture,

or a barn out in the middle

block amounts to the same

thing," he said. "Red Hook has

always been a dumping ground

and that is not changing."

Five cars were burned on the

same block between Aug. 1 and

Sept. 15 last year, another neighbor

said.

Red Hook Fairway developer

Greg O'Connell, who owns build-

ings on Smith Street that block

once was even more of a

magnet for trash.

He remembers catching people illegally dumping

tires near a waste bin that now

houses the garage space.

"Now there's more eyes on the

street, so no dumping doesn't happen," he said. "It's a win-win for us," he

said, adding that the Block 1000

next year the security cameras and

crowds will force the dumpers to

go elsewhere.

— Ariella Cohen

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Crying in beer in Red Hook

H on Red Hook is turning cold one year after New York's identification guard branded it "the neighborhood that birthed 'One Waterfront' — as The Next Big Thing."

Last summer, anything seemed possible for the once-quiet, once-bankrupt Barbara Corcoran had recently paid \$1-million for one of the drag's narrow, 19th-century buildings. Fairway foodies were stopping at the Old Market for post-workout beers, and early batny evening brought another fancy-peopple caravan to eat small plates of costly, farm-raised food at the new Good Eggs.

The Juke, another new spot, bleaker. Posh 360 is closed, with the metal gate rolled down for an indefinite period of time. Also closed is the Old Pioneer, which owners plan to sell because of lagging profit. Over on Commerce Street, the Hook is turning off its neon sign, having closed after a noisy attempt to become Brooklyn's most post-punk rock pub.

My favorite bookstore, Freebird on nearby Columbia Street, is for sale on Craig's List, as is another Columbia Street establishment, Laid bar. Alread sold is the Lincoln Heights Tap Room, the Dutch Deli, which has been in business for a month at Rocky Sullivan's, an Irish-themed, Manhattan-style pub.

To add to the despair, soon enough Red Hookers won't even be able to drown down a bottle of good bourbon.

That's a bummer, but the neighborhood that it used to be is one with the neighborhood that it used to be.

Rye — learned recently that it will have to leave its 416 Van Brunt St. location next summer because the building's owner wants to use the storefront for his own.

Toys "LeBell" Smothers, the booze boutique's owner, said she wants to stay in the 'hood, but where she wants to open is a mystery as watertown oozes.

"Red Hook is a difficult place to run a business and I will leave it if that's what I want," she said. Even the Lamaze at 282 Van Brunt St. has a "For Rent" sign in the front window, a disaster in the making.

The building at 31 St. Marks Ave., between Third and Fourth avenues, is a dilapidated, three-story brownstone owned and

Book 'em! BookCourt grows

By Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Paper

A hot spot for the bookish is growing bigger and bigger.

In a bid to increase its nighttime appeal, BookCourt is adding a new cafe and backyard garden to the rear of its 163 Court St. shop, creating a stage for readings and more space for bookworms to mingle.

"Over the last few years, more and more people have moved to the neighborhood, and we want to bring them in at night," said Henry Zook, who opened the store with co-owner Mary Gannett in 1981 and now runs it with Gannett and their 23-year-old son, Zack.

The elder Zook said that they have never applied for a liquor license to serve beer and wine at the new cafe — an addition that would help the shop compete with other nightspots like the KGB Bar in Manhattan or Pete's Candy Store in Williamsburg. He credits his son for coming up with that idea.

"He knows more about what young people going out do," he explained.

Zack Zook — an easygoing, mustachioed 23-year-old — grew up in an apartment above the store and can now often be found discussing recent reads over a cigarette on a wooden



The owners of BookCourt are planning a major renovation that will double the size of the store. Here, family members (left to right) Henry Zook, Zack Zook and Mary Gannett stand in what will be their future reading room.

bench in front of the building — credits BookCourt's "sophisticated and brilliant" customers for its success, and growth, which comes at a time when many similar, independent book shops are struggling to survive.

"We are surrounded with what people want to read, in a way that we couldn't be with so many authors and writers around to talk to and keep up with," he said.

One of those authors is Jonathan Lethem, a novelist and the author of "I Love You More Than You Know," a book of essays published last year.

Zook already regards the bookstore as a hot night-time spot.

"It's sort of an equivalent of a fire hydrant hole, especially since I don't have a favorite watering hole," he said.

Another local writer, Jonathan Lethem, chose the storefront as the place to hold a sales launch for a book of photographs and essays about Brooklyn called "Patchwork Planet."

The new storefront will be built behind the store in a yard once occupied by a greenhouse that was torn down in June. Zack Zook said that the store's "big move" will be to a new addition to be complete in September with the cafe opening soon after.

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The building at 31 St. Marks Ave., between Third and Fourth avenues, is a dilapidated, three-story brownstone owned and

managed by the city's Department of Housing Preservation and Development.

Residents of Boerum Hill say that crack dealers and their customers are operating out of a St. Marks Avenue building that the city says is actually owned by the city.

The building at 31 St. Marks Ave., between Third and Fourth avenues, is a dilapidated, three-story brownstone owned and

managed by the city's Department of Housing Preservation and Development.

Neighbors and their customers are demanding that the city take action (against the dealers and, apparently, itself).

"Maybe the Hook is a summer camp for alcoholics," said Chris Curran, an authority on drinking customs.

Curran sees the demise of Van Brunt Street's Old Pioneer as fallout from the neighborhood's buying.

"Landlords are seeing dollar signs and not the reality," he said. "They're getting back a little revenue at the expense of the street at the Bait and Switch, the Bait and Switch at Prospect Street," which is "not going anywhere," according to co-owner Eddie Stoen.

Stone said her and B & T co-owners were considering selling the tavern before hearing of the demise of the Old Pioneer next door, a bar that helped create boozey Valley atmosphere on the block. Now, she said, it's time to stay open.

You won't regret it. And if you do, at least LeNeil will still be around to help you forget.

Ariella Cohen is a staff reporter for The Brooklyn Paper



THE KITCHEN SINK

By Dana Rubinstein

The Brooklyn Paper

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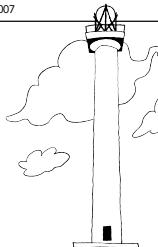
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THE stoop

FORT GREENE-CLINTON HILL

Crying in my tofu chicken

Mobay, purveyor of the finest veggie-chicken not from Fort Greene to Montego Bay, is dead. That enormous maroon and gold sign in the window claiming that Mobay is merely "cheating for vacation" through July 30 is a beard, a mocking joke, a fantasy.

"We are closed," Sheron Barnes, owner of the ill-fated Clinton Hill food joint, told us on Tuesday. "It was a very heartbreak situation and a heartbreaking decision to make."

I suppose that's the only upside

in the fact that, contrary to knee-jerk prognoses, this is not another casualty of gentrification.

"In all honesty, it was not the rent," said Barnes. "We had a fairly decent location. [My mother] is 67 now. And she's been here for 30 years."

From the beginning, Mobay has been a mother-daughter affair. Barnes and her mom, Annette Hew, opened the DeKalb Avenue restaurant, which is located at Avenue Place and St. Felix Street, in 2003. Barnes' Janina-Chinese aunt, Avis Hoo, helped develop the menu and train the staff.

Barnes soon expanded the business into a culinary empire, opening a second Mobay and a third restaurant called Baton Rouge, in the same building. Barnes' mom, Avis Hoo, is still there, her man-overseer of the original Mobay.

The stress of managing a restaurant soon began to weigh on Hoo's health, "she says. "Where comes a point that you have to weigh the value of life?" said Barnes. "It was too much for her. Now she's retired and she's enjoying life."

As far as reasons go for closing shop, that's a pretty good one.

But what about our enjoyment? Where the legions of neighborhood vegetarians go when the mob goes for fake chicken parmesana right?

Rest assured, Peta will be able to find a home for the tangy sauce, leaching onto some crusty mustard-and-cheese and pork-free collard greens?

Perhaps the greatest solace is that Barnes does have plans to return to the business she birthed her restaurant empire (though not necessarily the Fort Greene one).

"Our plan is to re-open as a franchise in Brooklyn," she said. "Fort Greene is definitely one neighborhood that would be a good one."

"We love Brooklyn," she added. "That's where we started."

THE KITCHEN SINK

Prott Institute announced that its sculpture park will be part of the Open House New York tour in October — for the very first time! The event provides architecture-lovers with a peek inside normally private residences. ... **T**he Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce (and the city's first ever Stoop Slope family man) Andrew Kimball on Wednesday for "strategic vision" in transforming the derelict space into a thriving industrial park and the home of **Steiner Studios** — the New York movie industry's cutting-edge answer to Hollywood.

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Swift senior nets gold



There's no way he's 70! Edward Baker prepares for a run in front of his Fort Greene building.

By Dana Rubinstein

There's no way Edward Baker is 70 years old. Look at him. He's chiseled. Watch him; he can run the 100-meter dash in 15.2 seconds — faster than most men half his age.

So it's no surprise that the fleet-footed Fort Greene grandpa took the gold medal in the Empire State Senior Games 100-meter dash, giving a new meaning to the phrase "running old fast."

Baker outran three other gray-haired men with a time that, by most accounts, is impossible.

After all, the world record for the men's 100-meter dash is 9.77 seconds — and the men who ran it were younger.

"It's an exceptional time," said Steve Borts '55, president of the Brooklyn Road Runners Club.

"I may not even beat the 15 seconds," he said.

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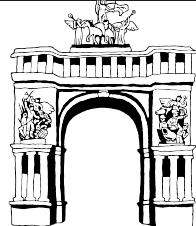
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THE stoop

PARK SLOPE PROSPECT HEIGHTS, SUNSET PARK WINDSOR TERRACE, KENSINGTON

Slope creeps as city sleeps

The universe is expanding but not for us. For dread, it's not about the expansion of Park Slope? Well, here's a new sort of: Visits to several Seventh Avenue real-estate offices revealed that the Slope's expansion is due less to general-optimistic necessity than to market forces.

When asked to identify the southern boundary of Park Slope, brokers from the neighborhood's real estate offices responded on how long they've been in the business. Roughly speaking, the newer the age, the broader the Slope.

"In order to be a neighbor, people do live in neighborhoods as Park Slope," an agent told me before he noticed his boss glowering at him. Borders are a touchy subject, even here.

Everyone agrees that the Slope is bounded by Flatbush Avenue to the north and Park West to the south. The Slope's just simple geography. And clearly, "pimped Slope blocks" are demarcated by the 34-year-old lines marking the Park Slope Historic District, which runs roughly between Seventh Avenue and the Park front St. John's Place to Third Avenue and between Eighth Avenue and Franklin Street to 14th Street.

But what of the neighborhood's western and southern frontiers? What may be the western border is Fourth Avenue, but the opinion is hardly unanimous. Lee Solomon of Brown Harris Stevens set it instead to Third Avenue (well, of course she does), but James Cawley, who resides beside Lee's, sniffed,

"That's Gowanus," she said.

Oh, yeah, retorted Lee: "We'll see when Whole Foods gets here if they call it Whole Foods Gowanus or Whole Foods Park Slope." Touch!



online at BrooklynPaper.com

the contested area" said Ilene Levy of the Brooklyn Properties. "That area isn't Sunset Park. Some call it the 'South South Slope.' Some call it 'Green-Wood Heights.'"

South Slope may be, but it's also quasi-official: in a 2005 remedial plan, the Department of Housing referred to the area bounded by the Gowanus Canal on the north, Fourth Avenue on the west, Prospect Park West on the east, and 24th Street and Green-Wood Cemetery on the south" as South Park Slope.

"Green-Wood Heights" hasn't really caught on. Agents use it, though, and it's a neighbor of Gowanus. "It's a 'big step' or 'Abraham's bosom' or 'David's Jordan's locker,'" "Hand over the cash or you're going to Green-Wood Heights."

"Neighbors didn't need to be named 'it' real estate got involved," said Lee. And of course, "The salt of the earth" did, too. I have no street to that effect.

Real-state agents may regret the passing of a more geographically certain era, but their work requires them to accept the example of the brick. That Park Slope has become,

"People are moving here, and they're moving to the latte's," Lee Solomon said.

"Park Slope today is a frame of mind, a bit less."

It happens that as you head south you can get the frame for a bit less.

Jimmy Wallenstein is a freelancer writer and educator who lives in Park Slope and has a great dog.

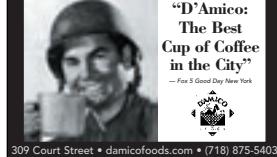
THE KITCHEN SINK

One pet shop became political incorrect? Could be. Some bloggers in a recent online poll of a new slate of Brooklyn and Sixth avenues called *Plop Slope*. "They're selling dogs and cats while animals [on the outside] are being euthanized for lack of homes. I'll never spend a single cent there," said an anonymous poster on Brooklyn's neighborhood bloggers website to welcome a new business fitting an obvious gap. Me-Ow! **New York Methodist Hospital** continues to keep busy, offering "World Breast-Feeding Month" with an all day Aug. 1 health fair and how-to booklet for new mothers. To find out more, call 780-5881. **Park Slope Civic Council** president Ken Freeman just scored yet another huge sale for his brokerage firm, **Massey Knakold**. Freeman brokered the \$4.7-million sale of two post-war buildings on Sackville Street, between Fourth and Fifth avenues. Congrats, Ken! Next up: the first-ever WHIP, WIC, EIK, and park vu... Email us at Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com



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5th Av shelter gets the nod

By Chris Casciaro
for The Brooklyn Paper

After months of debate and negotiations with city officials, an affordable housing facility has finally been approved at the corner of Fifth Avenue and 16th Street.

The City Council unanimously approved the controversial building this week, clearing the way for a municipal parking lot to be transformed into 49 studio apartments for the formerly homeless, low-income elderly, and people with HIV.

The vote came after nearly a year of objections to the project, proposed by the Fifth Avenue Committee.

Several neighbors, under the ad-hoc

group named "16th Street Action," claimed that the shelter would be a burden to the nearby homeless tenants at the site would be bad in an up-and-coming neighborhood.

"I live next door, and my children will be walking home right past the entrance to this building," said Matthew Dwyer, a co-founder of 16th Street Action. "I don't want them to be at risk."

But such concerns did not persuade Council members to compromise. The group agreed to limit the number of mentally ill residents and fill their slots with people with AIDS, said Michelle De La Uz, executive director of the Brooklyn Community AIDS Project.

"This was a way to cut down on the number of mentally ill homeless who will be living in the building," De La Uz said.

Construction of the five-story building is slated to begin in late fall and take only 18 months, De La Uz said.

Slope Chocolate Girl is kosher

New cocoa nut says nabe will flip for untray treats

By Dana Rubinstein
for The Brooklyn Paper

The new chocolate maker in town wants Park Slope's residents to know that "kosher" and "good" needn't be incompatible as oil and water.

"Quality is the kosher," said Tzipporah Jagendorf, a 20-year-old Jewish girl from a chocolate shop that will open on Seventh Avenue on Wednesday.

"It's gourmet chocolate, and it just happens to be kosher," Jagendorf, who lives in Midwood, said. "It's top-quality ingredients."

Pure chocolate is essentially pure cacao and sugar. Jagendorf pour cacao beans into a large pot, like milk and flour, which can render some chocolate un-kosher.

To avoid unhygienic ingredients, Jagendorf, who studied chocolate from a kosher company in Belgium, she tempers and reworks the sweet confection here in Brooklyn, where she has made chocolate for the non-dairy and she has the treats certified again by Rabbi Avner Katz.

Jagendorf is confident that discerning Park Slope residents will agree to the kosher certification is no more than "an added bonus." As long as the chocolate's up to snuff, she's probably right.

"If you can make gourmet



chocolate, you can make gourmet kosher chocolate," said Park Slope chocolate eater Emily Fink.

Justin Jarboe, a Fort Greene fellow-traveler, agreed, even going so far as to claim the kosher girl's chocolates are of "higher quality" than regular food.

One thing's for sure: Park Slope is more than a foodie when it comes to food, as it is to culinary marvels like Al Di La and Applewood, not to mention two existing chocolatiers, the Chocolate Room, 8th and Fourth streets, and the Chocolate Room, on Fifth Avenue, between St. Marks Avenue and Warren Street.

Plus, every store in the neighborhood — from the Food Co-op to the former bodega — has a slab of gourmet, 70-percent cocoa, organic, fair trade, single estate bars.

Jagendorf, 26, has a long-standing relationship with the god of dessert, who started experimenting with chocolate as a child, but didn't start making her own until she was 15, using a mix from a local store in Sweetwater. She couldn't find products like chocolate-covered apples.

"So I started making chocolate myself to be honest," said Jagendorf, who, for her recent favors, dark chocolate to milk, and says while chocolate isn't really chocolate at all (though that's what it's called), it's still delicious.

Out of signature will be a hot chocolate with a pink dollop of whipped cream on top.

Neighbors are cautiously optimistic — and at least one has ulterior motives.

"I'm out of excuses to try the chocolate," said Leah, 26, a saleswoman at the wine shop Big Bar, Full Body, across the street.

Bevans recommended that chocolate eaters carry their treats with them when they travel.

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Nigerian 'prince' scams Ridge man

By Matthew Lysiak and Michael Giardina
The Brooklyn Paper

68th Precinct

A Nigerian "prince" in desperate need of an American friend to help him transfer money out of his turbulent country found one in Bay Ridge.

The 27-year-old man, who was promised a slice of the action in return for his services, told cops he received the urgent e-mail sometime in June. In the email, the "prince" told the victim that before he could transfer the millions of dollars into the United States, he would first need a royal sum.

Cops say the victim, who was on 95th Street near Third Avenue, offered the wealthy Nigerian heir with a wire transfer of \$2,850 on June 13, before discovering he was part of a royal scam.

Indicates he was robbed

A 55-year-old man was robbed after inviting a man into his apartment on June 13.

The crime went down at shortly after 10 p.m. when the victim invited the still-fingered perp into the flat, which is on Bay Ridge Avenue near Ridge Boulevard. After the man left, the victim found his cellphone, valued at \$150, and his iPod, valued at \$300, were missing.

Alarm response

A quick response by cops to a residential alarm may have thwarted a heist on June 13.

Police got to the house, which is on Seventh Avenue between 90th and 91st Streets, around 2:50 p.m. and discovered the security gate pried open and a basement window shattered, but fortunately no property was stolen.

Store looted

Can you believe it? A Fourth Avenue cellphone store was robbed of over \$50,000 worth of merchandise on June 13.

A store employee told police that she closed the store at 8:30 p.m. on June 14, only to return the next morning at 11 to discover someone had crawled through the roof, stolen the goods, and escaped through the bathroom window.

The tech-chief made it with a bundle of new cellphones, valued at \$41,400, but didn't

POLICE BLOTTER

forgot the accessories, valued at \$15,131.

62nd Precinct

A woman's purse was snatched as she was shopping on Bay Parkway on July 15.

The 65-year-old woman was near 73rd Street at around 5 p.m. when the three-thieves approached her. According to the victim, one of the perps took the cellphones from her pocket and snatched the pocketbook. The woman found herself being shoved to the ground after she attempted to struggle with the purse.

The thief took more than \$100, along with her credit and debit cards, police said.

Cellphone game

A 49-year-old man was in the midst of a game of monopoly in the middle when three punks took her phone in a New Utrecht Avenue train station on

July 13.

The 16-year-old girl was waiting for the D train at the station, which is near 79th Street and Avenue J at around 5 p.m. when the three-thieves approached her. According to the victim, one of the perps took the cellphones from her pocket and snatched the pocketbook. When she attempted to get it back, one of the punks punched her in the eye, police said.

All three victims fled following the incident. The victim had some swelling and bruising to her face.

AM break-in

A middle-aged man returned to his 90th Street apartment to find hisieves had broken in and taken his property overnight on July 13.

The 49-year-old man discovered the crime when he re-

turned to his apartment, which is near 18th Avenue, at around 5 a.m. The punks had broken in and taken electronics and cellphone before fleeing through a bedroom window, cops said.

Gym swipes

After a one-week absence from these pages, two more gym swipes were reported last week this time at the same 86th Street health club.

The first break-in occurred on July 11 at around 5:30 p.m., when a 44-year-old man left his locker belonging in a locker. After working up a good sweat, he returned to the lockroom, where he found that thugs had broken in and taken his jewelry and \$100.

The second occurred on July 13, at around 6:30 p.m. In this case, the 44-year-old left his locker with all his property inside. The 44-year-old was even biten by four punks on July 16.

The victim, who is the father as he and his son were walking at around 9:30 p.m. took his clothes, cellphone, and credit and debit cards, police said.

The victim returned to his

car, which was near Avenue P, where he found his wallet and goods were still in it.

When the victim returned to the house, which is near 21st Avenue, at around 7:20 p.m., she did notice that her front air conditioner had been kicked out of the window. She easily walked into her bedroom to find the two punks looking through her dresser drawers.

The victim immediately screamed, causing the two punks to flee through the front door with the cash.

The victim told him to "give me money."

Biting buffaloes

A man was bitten by a 3-year-old son on 86th Street was attacked, robbed, and even bitten by four punks on July 16.

The victim, who is the father as he and his son were walking at around 9:30 p.m. took his clothes, cellphone, and credit and debit cards, police said.

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The 'bride' of Fourth Street

Sleeping beauty has block abuzz

By Beethoven Bong
for The Brooklyn Paper

Fourth Street was abuzz on Sunday when neighbors awoke to find a woman in a full wedding attire apparently asleep on a ledge above the door of a Park Slope brownstone. Police quickly arrived, but no one knew what to make of the mysterious woman or even how she could have gotten there without medical assistance. (See photos, left.)

"They asked me if I knew or recognized her or had any idea why she was there," said Magda Grant, who lives across the street. "She was a beautiful girl."

After EMS workers took her away, neighborhood remained stunned.

"It's very strange," said a neighbor. "Did she pass out or did she climb up here? This has been the talk of the block since."

Another neighbor added, "We all kept thinking she had got into some NYU film student prank or something! Where's Ashton Kutcher to tell us we're being punk'd?"

Cops carried the woman down from the ledge, and questioned her in Spanish and English. But witness said she spoke no language.

"Maybe she's a fallen angel," one cop said.

The woman had a teary bear-shaped bag with her that contained a wedding ring inside a Tiffany box, a

witness told The Brooklyn Paper. When the cops took it away from her briefly, she squirmed a wussiness said, and then disappeared in a huff.

That was the only time she responded at all," said Magda Grant, who lives across the street. "She was a beautiful girl."

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An artist's rendering shows the public art exhibit "Stair Squares," which will make its debut at Borough Hall on Aug. 17.

Borough Hall art project will be weird

By Harry Cheadle
The Brooklyn Paper

Anyone who has passed by the steps of Borough Hall and thought, "There ought to be some funiture, L-shaped sofa-like things here," is going to get his wish.

Everyone else is probably going to be a little confused.

On Aug. 17, a bunch of turquoise, L-shaped, table-like things called "Stair Squares" will be installed on the stairs of our city's government, bringing some color — and weirdness — to the gray, classical structure.

So what are they? Tables for lunching? A po-bo-bo chair? An homage to Tertz?

No, they're not. And Reigelman has the answer.

"There isn't a specific function," said Reigelman, an up-and-coming Williamsburg designer. "It's a good height to put your lunch or coffee on. I tried to keep it so the user can sit on it, but it's not a chair."

He said they could be used, say, as breakrests by all our tireless city employees (when they get fired, that is). At least one occupant of 209 Joralemon St. is enthusiastic.

"I live at Borough Hall, we love it," said Mark Reigelman, 30, an architect. "We figured that Mark Reigelman will be giving our beautiful building's grandeur a little bit of modern moxie."

The project was made possible by the Center for Craft, Creativity and Design, which gave \$15,000 grants to 10 graduating design students.

The Brooklyn Paper

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Why won't OSFO write?

THE OH SO FEISTY

One has been away for more than a week and Smartmom hasn't written a word.

No one, right letter.

Frankly, Smartmom is worried and a little hurt. It would not be the first time that she is the thrice of a curiosity-induced cardiac arrest. She wishes she could be a fly on the wall of OSFO's open-air cabin and get a firsthand look at her daughter's summer.

Smartmom knows that OSFO is probably more interested in the orientation, the friendly camp directors said that if a camper is terribly homesick for more than a day two, there will be a phone call home.

And that's a tall you don't

want to get on your iPhone. That's for sure.

It's not likely no call came.

But neither did a delightful little message from OSFO gushing about her adventures in the woods of Vermont. Worse, Smartmom's friend,

daughter, is at a very same

camp, already got a detailed letter from her daughter that was probably missing in scope.

Smartmom wanted to

screen with envy.

ND IT'S NOT because

OSFO doesn't have sta-

tionery or postage

stamps.

Far from it. Before she left, Smartmom and OSFO left well over 30 stamped postcards and envelopes to friends and family.

"I think I'm going to be bored, so I'll probably write a lot," OSFO told Smartmom.

Smartmom certainly didn't

expect OSFO to use all

postcards.

Smartmom wrote her parents

a letter-a-day full of sturm and drang.

"I hate camp! Please come

get me!"

Manhattan Granny recalls

the sheer panic and gastric pain

she felt when she got Smart-

mom's pen pal letter.

It all sounds pretty great,

right? So why has Smartmom

been silent for so long?

Manhattan Granny remembers

the first time she got Smart-

mom's postcard and how

she had to read the card

out loud to her mother.

So maybe it's a blessing that Smartmom hasn't heard from OSFO. Still, Smartmom has a

The Oh So Feisty One (far left) enjoys (sort of) the great outdoors.

without contact of any kind. And Indian Brook is not one of those camps that lets the kids send emails or get parents access to a hidden camera.

"Unplugged and unforgettable," that's the camp's motto.

A wilderness camping experience, Indian Brook encourages simple living.

Knowledge is power and it seemed to bring some modicum of comfort to her frightened girl.

MARTOMOM MADE A

point of not mentioning

her own Alan ("Hello

Mutha, Hello Fatha") Sher-

man's absence when she was writing him from Lincoln Park, New York. It was the summer of Woodstock and on the days of the festival, all the counselors absentmindedly camped in the woods and in fields.

Her mother was mortified.

"I don't even like sleep-over

dates and now you've got me

going away for two whole

days!" OSFO snarled.

"We'll come get you,"

Smartmom told her.

"You know, I never really

wanted to go to camp in the first place," she was saying worked up. "I said I was interested, that doesn't mean I wanted you to SIGN ME UP FOR

STARS AND STRIPES."

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Smartmom was still a basket case.

It's not like Smartmom hasn't

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N0314-NY-6

OUR OPINION

Throw out this bill

THE STATE LEGISLATURE HAS PASSED a misguided — and probably unconstitutional — bill that could bar everyone from advertisers to activists from leaving flyers outside buildings whose owners indicated that they do not wish to receive them.

We understand the motivation behind the bill — plenty of homeowners complain of unwanted flyers, menus and advertising circulars. But a law against such items would both stifle and skew the free exchange of political thought and commercial action.

The Brooklyn Paper doesn't have a dog in this fight — we're explicitly exempt from the bill's regulation and onerous fines, \$250 to \$1,000 per infraction. In fact, we could view the bill as giving us an advantage in the competition for advertising dollars.

Yet despite one possible gain, we oppose it and urge Gov. Spitzer to veto it. Here's why:

It's one thing to allow owner-occupants of single-family homes the right to refuse products they

don't want, but what about multi-unit buildings? Should a building's owner be allowed to cut off the free flow of information to his tenants?

The newspaper exemption itself poses special concerns. First, we're leery of any government regulation that seeks to define what is or is not a "news" paper.

Second, circular distributors could seek to get around the bill by turning ads into stories like, "Locals go crazy for beauty product sale in aisle 4 at ...," "It's summer! Time for a new barbecue grill — on sale now!"

And third, faux-newspapers could very easily and cheaply be filled with press releases and unverified "good and great" pieces by elected officials, prompting such circular distributors from the bill so long as they play ball with the incumbents and give them lots of free publicity.

Brooklyn has enough fake "newspapers" that already work (not so subtly, in our view) as public relations machines for chosen politicians and de-

velopers. As a bedrock principle, we oppose any government action that could discourage the free exchange of ideas, both political and commercial, and the line between the two is finer than you might think.

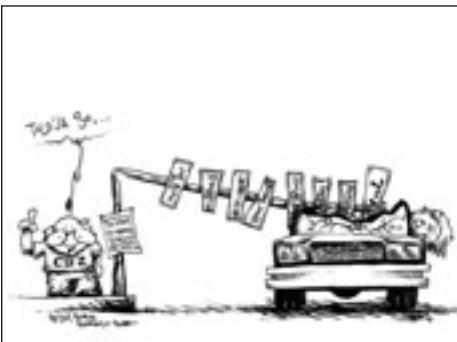
The fact is, speech is speech — whether it's your local pizzeria dropping off its menu at your doorstep, a politician handing out a flyer, a developer putting his press, or a newspaper blaring headlines from its newsroom.

And people already have in place a mechanism to handle such speech: it's called the free market. If no one visits the pizzeria, it closes down, and the flyers stop coming. The power of the market, of of-ficials, developers, spin, gets countered by truth.

It goes against this country's principles for the legislature to write a law specifically aimed at a person or company's right to get the word out.

The New York State legislature has done just that. Gov. Spitzer should not allow them to get away with it.

ALL DRAWN OUT



Ethan Karpin

LETTERS

This regular 'Joe' wants Wal-Mart in Brooklyn

To the editor:

After reading your coverage of the new Trader Joe's in the Bank (July 14), I was glad that an open letter to Brooklyn's elected Martians was published.

I do not care about Trader Joe's. I probably cannot even afford to shop there, although I have no doubt you and I want it now. If this is the kind of store that the many, many bairn dictators — Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Senate Majority Leader Joe Bruno — are stopping this great business from coming to New York.

I wait and my boss gives me \$2-\$4 an hour plus tips, which doesn't amount to much. I do not care one way or another if Wal-Mart is unionized. Illegal aliens walk all over the city and I do not care to who they are.

Give us lower-income people a Wal-Mart!

Janet DeBenedictis, Park Slope

Triple treat

To the editor:

I want to thank you for your special coverage of the Brooklyn Cyclones ("Triple-Header Cover," 7/10). Enjoy articles that are written with such enthusiasm that there is an area newspaper to purchase that covers the team the way you do. Again, thank you.

Robert M. Hoffman, Midwood
Editor's note: While we appreciate that Hoffman would gladly pay for our newspaper, The Brooklyn Paper remains free.

Tricycle thief

To the editor:

Concerning your article "The tricycle thief" (June 16), I can see that it's cyclical, but I am not sure one year old, could be considered a "neighborhood legend."

Worse, how can this infant tricycle have made its owner "a Fort Greene legend" when he has not even had these parts seen this mere babe in action?

We do appreciate The Brooklyn Paper, but Fort Greene has plenty of menu icons and legends that have been around for decades, if not centuries. I hope this paper will create legends and icons out of them.

Susan Price, Fort Greene

Editor's note: No offense was intended to Fort Greene Park, the state of Gen. Fowler, the Brooklyn Cyclones, or the Fort Greene neighborhood. The author is a member of the Brooklyn Park Slope Association and even the Pratt Institute. And we at The Brooklyn Paper do respect the right to create new "icons" on occasion.

Reduce traffic!

To the editor:

The concept of reduction of auto and truck traffic in Manhattan deserves action. The current plan's flaw is that it only encompasses the outer ring. Portions of the so-called "outer boroughs" suffer the ailments of too many vehicles for a limited amount of space.

New York City is projected to add one million people in the upcoming decades.

And Brooklyn will experience massive traffic inflow with the controversial Atlantic Yards project.

To accomplish such growth, our city must manage the process of making the transition to a improved mass-transit system citywide.

Any congestion plan must include entering any of the five boroughs with New York City's transit system to transfer to the person through busses as well.

Jeannie M. May, Bay Ridge

The writer is a member of CB10 and Brooklyn Democrats for Change, a political club.

Smells a Ratner

To the editor,

Those new released Atlantic Yards documents finally Stop Ratner gray trash (July 14) make it very clear that the 2,250 low-cost housing units that proposed as part of Bruce Ratner's development, may in fact be rat holes.

But if not, blame Ratner. Their future is in doubt due to cost under-estimates, and this should concern every taxpayer citizen.

Ratner's project will ultimately be funded by the public, and in the end will not benefit the community in any way shape or form, but will only further deplete already overtaxed utilities in the area and in nearby neighborhoods.

Moving forward with this project, with the assistance of city officials and planners, violates the terms of Eminent Domain laws, and is unethical. The developer, with government assistance, is knowingly seizing private property for private use under the guise of public benefit.

To add insult to injury, a recent state Assembly vote awarded Ratner a tax break estimated as being worth between \$175 and \$300 million.

It's time to stop turning a blind eye to all that's going on in our own backyards — we need to act.

If not, officials we elect to protect our interests are unwilling to do so, they must be voted out of office. We've been complacent long enough, Brooklynites — "Wake up! Speak up! Use your vote!"

Robert Segarra, Park Slope

Cell hell

To the editor:

A story on cellphone towers at 301 81st Street quoted Councilman Vic Gentile as saying, "The situation on 81st Street is a perfect example of why Congress should amend the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to allow local governments to regulate cell phone towers."

I suggest the situation is more indicative of why people don't trust politicians.

Can nothing be done at the local level like, say, where Mr. Gentile works in the Council?

Introduce a bill and get things going to study this problem? Or a resolution, maybe?

Can he really be serious about merely wanting our Congress to do something? Mr. Gentile: Do something yourself and stop pandering here on 81st Street.

Rather, he is helping to turn tenants against a good landlord who is breaking no laws.

William Wickham, Bay Ridge

The writer lives in the building in question.

Hook still hot

Last year, you wrote an article about Red Hook that I think was a bit negative and misleading ("Red Hot Red Hook," Aug. 6). I am an owner of a home in Red Hook, S. C., and absolutely adore my neighborhood.

Perhaps you would consider another look? My dear friends in the Hook have such a different attitude than the one expressed in this article.

Maybe I am a little too sensitive, and the article was not as negative as I feel it, but really, I feel that the attitude of such a place, and take offense to anyone who speaks ill of my little beach town.

Beatrice Giovannello, Red Hook

Editor's note: No offense intended. Please read our review of Red Hook in our Current Goodwill Column (Cobbler Hill) and let us know what you think. We think you will find it to be a pristine, fair and balanced.

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Every week, we deliver copies of The Brooklyn Paper to homes throughout Brooklyn and the Bronx. Our unique system limits deliveries to just a few papers per building (eliminating the kind of clutter caused by circular and menu delivery services).

We know everyone appreciates our free home delivery, but realize there are exceptions to every rule.

So, if you've received The Paper at home and don't want it, write to us at 381 81st Street, S. C., and absolutely adore my neighborhood.

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Send a letter

By e-mail: Letters@BrooklynPaper.com
By mail: Letters Editor, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Brooklyn, NY 11201.

By fax: (718) 834-9276

All letters must be signed and include the name and address of the writer and number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published in the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

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Il Nuraghe 'Le Giare' Vermentino di Sardegna
This amazing white is such a perfect match with seafood: it comes from the sun-drenched island of Sardinia. Ripe and full-bodied, too delicious to miss!

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Hecht & Bannier, Syrah Rosé
Smooth & silky in the mouth, this well-balanced and finely structured rosé has plenty of ripe fruit flavors, nicely matured and polished. Neither red nor white, yet the best of both!

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GO BROOKLYN

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

July 21, 2007



Wear it's going on

GO's guide to the best vintage shopping in the borough

By Katie Newingham
for The Brooklyn Paper

Check out the brownstones being renovated, the sold-out live art shows and the major work on Cadman Plaza; everything old in Brooklyn is new again, and fashion isn't any different.

On a jam-packed subway ride or a walk down the street, it's hard not to notice the wealth of rehased fashion — wedge shoes and gigantic sunglasses are two of the

biggest comebacks — that folks from Fort Greene to Flatbush are wearing this summer. In the past year, Brooklyn has seen a vintage boom, with nationwide chain Buffalo Exchange opening its first store here and setting their sights on DUMBO and Brooklyn and Manhattan mainstay Housing Works setting up shop in Brooklyn Heights. "I think the Brooklyn demographic is good to do with it," said Rachel Petersen, a manager at Buffalo Exchange. "Everybody's trying to find her own style and to stand out in a crowd —

everyone wants a unique wardrobe."

With so many local thrift shops, and overpriced vintage boutiques opening by the dozen, GO Brooklyn sorted through the racks and came up with the borough's best bets for secondhand shopping.

Sara Dunn
To keep it affordable, she recommends that you "get as far away from Manhattan as possible."

Make friends with your tailor

"I get a lot of vintage items from Dunn. She wants to buy items that just doesn't fit right. It's worth it." In other words, a \$5 pair of pants that are too long are worth the price of hemming. "But don't buy something in horrible condition," she warned us. After all, a tailor isn't a magician.

Learn to haggle

"Anything designer — always buy it," said

Dunn, who throws her vintage style "Everything Must Go" once a month. While most prices are fixed, if there's a defect in an item or you're buying in bulk, it doesn't hurt to ask.

Think Outside the Box

"I think it's fun to mix it up," said Dunn. "Who wants to look like everybody else is buying down the street?" She advised to buy classic pieces but mix them with pieces that are trendy right now. "You want to keep it modern, but also to incorporate the timeless aspect of vintage."

This old thing: Clockwise from above: vintage finds from the Buffalo Exchange in Williamsburg, the retro sign in the window of the Park Slope Beacon's Closet, and Hoot Couture owner Allison Houter showing off her vintage glamour.

Beacon's Closet

Opening in 1997 in Williamsburg, Beacon's Closet has become one of the neighborhood's premier shopping destinations. The warehouse is chock full of men's and women's gear ranging from Halloween costumes ridiculous to red carpet glamorous. The store, which has a second location in Brooklyn, is located at 1120 2nd Avenue, a satellite location opened in Park Slope.

"We do a lot of funky, trendy stuff, but we don't do anything too formal," said manager Tiffany Collings. Beacon's keeps their prices low by buying directly from the public, so you're able to score major items in the store for under \$50 — even designer outfits and footwear.

Items likeights, sunglasses and jewelry are all sold new, so you can pick up an entire outfit — part of the store's appeal, said Collings. "It's a real cross-section," she said, "we see locals and tourists from all over the world."

Buffalo Exchange

Sprouting out of Tucson, Arizona in 1974 and reproducing itself to 30-plus branches nationwide, Buffalo Exchange keeps its tick racks stocked with modern and vintage finds. "Employees are trained on quality and desirability," as they know it, said Petersen — which means you can score certain designer favorites at about a third of the

See VINTAGE on page 12

"A somewhat 'UNSUNG HERO'...Tempo offers 'AMAZING DINING EXPERIENCES'... 'WONDERFULLY PREPARED CUISINE' and a 'TERRIFIC WINE LIST'... 'BROOKLYN PRICES' save the day!" -2007 Zagat Survey

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ART



Sand dollars

To many Brooklynites, East Hampton is more than a trip on the nearly inaccessible Hampton Jetty — it's another planet. But on July 27, three of the borough's art galleries will make the trek to play their wares at Scope Hamptons, an art fair that draws wealthy collectors out of their Hamptons homes.

"The art scene in the Hamptons is old-fashioned, thinking that Brooklyn is the minor leagues," said Dan Carroll, owner of Jack the Pelican Presents gallery in Williamsburg. "They would sooner fly to Europe to see what you have than they would cross the river."

This week, the wealthy are packing up. Dan Carroll is participating in Scope Hamptons, and Pelican is participating in Scope Hamptons, and Pelican said that its success with the moneyed country these crowed makes it worthwhile to bring work by artists like Rodger Roundy (above) out of the city.

"People say that the Hamptons are where the rich people are," Scope President Alexis Hirschman told GO. "But the people say Brooklyn is where the hip people are."

Scope Hamptons will run from July 27-29 at East Hampton Studios (77 Industrial Rd. at Wainscott Northwest Road in Wainscott). For information, visit www.scope-art.com.

— Adam Rathe

TV

Ball flick

For some Brooklynites, mentioning the Dodgers is akin to bringing up an ex-wife who left us for a younger, richer man from Los Angeles. But now that so much time has passed, we can appreciate the good times we had.

That's the message of "Brooklyn Dodgers: The Ghosts of Flatbush," a new HBO film that revisits the best of times and focuses on the golden age of Major League baseball, 1947-1956.

We're already familiar with many of the film's elements: Robinson's strikeout, the 1955 World Series.

This week's horrific "shot heard 'round the world," but the film does offer a few surprising tidbits.

For example, team owner Walter O'Malley, remembered in the borough as the demon spawn of Ebenezer Scrooge and Satan, gets kinder treatment in the film.

"Brooklyn Dodgers: The Ghosts of Flatbush" airs on HBO through August 25. For times and information, visit www.hbo.com.

— Harry Cheadle

BOOKS

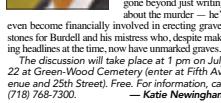
Cold case

According to "Butchery on Bond Street" author Benjamin Feldman, the 1857 stabbing and strangling of New York society girl Isabella Harvey Burdell makes "OJ [Simpson] look like child's play."

On July 22 in Green-Wood Cemetery, Feldman will explain the twists and turns of this 150-year-old murder — complete with shantytowns and fake pregnancies.

In fact, the Manhattan-dwelling Feldman has become so obsessed with the case that he has gone beyond just writing about the murder — he's even become financially involved in erecting gravestones for Burdell and his mistress who, despite making headlines at the time, now have unmarked graves.

The "Butchery on Bond Street" will take place at 1 pm on July 22 at Green-Wood Cemetery (enter at Fifth Avenue and 25th Street). Free. For more information, call (718) 768-7300.



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Recalling Danny Garcia

DANNY GARCIA IS UP ON THE WALL AT Keyspan Park, and up against the wall in his career. The second baseman's name and uniform number (6) grace the panoply at the Coney Island ball yard to honor his feat of becoming the first Brooklyn Cyclone to reach major league, yet after playing parts of two seasons with the New York Mets, Garcia is now with the Somerset Patriots, an independent team.

Garcia, 27, was the Mets' fifth-round selection in the 2001 draft. The Peppermint University star began his Brooklyn career on July 1 that year, and although he was with the Cyclones for only 15 games, his play was impressive. He batted .321, and while he saw him play, you'd appreciate him even more.

For his first seven contests with Brooklyn, Garcia made a key play in every game. One day it was a beautiful hit-and-run, the next day, he'd break up a double play with a slide; after that, he'd bunt for a hit; the following day, coming in as second base against a take-out slide to start a double play.

Fans of so-called "little ball" were seeing it nearly every game from Garcia, and he was a key factor in setting the tone for the Cyclones' inaugural champion ship season.

Garcia was promoted to Class-A Capital City in mid-July 2001, and quickly advanced up the Mets' minor-league ladder.

He became the first Cyclone to reach the bigs on Sept. 2, 2002, and he did it in his first major league game.

The Cyclones' all-time 214 in 19 games for the Mets that season, and after spending the first few weeks of the 2004 season at Triple-A Norfolk, was recalled to the Mets and hit .252 in 52 appearances.

Garcia was with the Mets before the 2005 season, and he signed with the Cleveland Indians. He tore the labrum in his right shoulder during spring training that year, only playing in two regular season games with Triple-A Buffalo before he had to have an operation and missed the remainder of the year.

Released again, he signed with the New York Yankees, and played all of last year for their Columbus Triple-A team, 242 in 123 games.

Once again, he signed with the Somerset Patriots, who play their home games in Bridgewater, New Jersey, only about an hour's drive from his last career stop in Brooklyn.

The Cyclones play in the Atlantic League, which features players with professional experience, including many former major leaguers, who are striving to return to "organized baseball," meaning leagues associated with the majors.

Actually, no one in play in the league is high.

"I feel like when you're in the minors it's Double-A, and some nights it's Triple-A," said Garcia.

Offensively, Garcia has a nice .270 average.

Batting lead-off, he is hitting .266, but he has 36 walks and is a .381 on-base percentage.

Playing in 64 games, he leads the Atlantic League in runs with 61, but his biggest contribution has been through his base stealing.

This year, Garcia is in a recent game, and he seems even faster and quicker than he was when he played in Brooklyn. He now gets incredible jumps on pitches.

Breaking at just the right moment, he accelerates immediately. He leads the league with 36 stolen bases — 17 more than the next closest player, only two being caught stealing.

In fact, several times this season Garcia has used his speed and hustle to take an extra base on a walk, breaking to second just as the catcher softly rounds the bag to the plate.

Although Garcia's ability to impress is off the charts, Garcia's hand yet regained the former stellar quality of his play defensively. While his speed and quickness enhance his range, he has committed 15 errors.

What Garcia attempts to get back to the major leagues by his field endeavors, off-the-field his agent is working the phones.

"My agent is calling teams to remind them to keep me in mind," Garcia said. "But, I'm out there." Garcia, "Most likely, if I can show people that I'm back health-wise, I don't know why they shouldn't want me."

One person who wants Garcia is his manager, Sparky Lyle, the former star reliever for the Red Sox, Yankees, and Pats.

"Danny's been a real good player for us," said Lyle. "He has great range defensively, and terrific speed, and it doesn't look like anyone will catch him in the stolen base race."

Even though his stay in Brooklyn was brief, Garcia made an impression on the fans. But the fans impressed Garcia as well.

"The fans were the greatest — just crazy for having baseball back in Brooklyn," said Garcia. "It was a great place for me to start my professional career."

And now, years after the start of his pro career, the Cyclones' first player to reach the majors just wants very much to get back there again.

CHANNELING THE BARD

Each week, Ed Shakespeare, the bard of Brooklyn baseball, will take a page from his ancient ancestor and add a bit of iambic pentameter to all our lives. This week's contribution is called, "Let's Go Mets."

"Let's go Mets" is not a cheer, not from here, Rebuke is more the word — from fans distressed.

The Cyclones' seventh season runs full gear.

Two hundred seventy young men have dressed in Brooklyn togs up to this very week.

But on the Mets there is Joe Smith — just one Alumnus from the Cyclones. It's so bleak

To think of all who left — Garcia alone.

Lindstrom pitches — Marlin now — you see?

DiNardo gone, Jacobs sent far away,

Pagan's a Cub, and Bannister's K.C.

Pest was dumped, and Kazmir's Tampa Bay.

So let's go Mets — "Keep Cyclones," farm fans call,

Remember — trading Cyclones? It's your downfall.



Former Cyclone second baseman Danny Garcia.

BROOKLYN CYCLONES COVERAGE

Cyclones off to best start ever

By Gersh Kuntzman

The Brooklyn Paper

This team isn't only a team, they're a steamroll! During a six-game winning streak, the Cyclones outscored their opponents 49-12.

Cyclones 6

Valley Cats 3

Game 11, July 12, at Tri-City

The Cyclones' hot Raul Reyes went 2-for-3 with a homer, ending the Cyclones' skid at just one. Reyes singled in the first, walked in the fifth, and scored in a five-run third and belted a solo shot, his fourth. Will Vogl and Jacob Eigsti added RBI singles. Reliever Grant Hinson (1-1) picked up the win and closed. Stephen Clyne got the save.

Valley Cats 7

Cyclones 3

Game 11, July 12, at Tri-City

In the nightcap, the Cyclones got on the board first, thanks to RBI singles by the dynamic duo, Will Vogl and



Jason Jacobs scores in the ninth inning off a double by Will Vogl during Tuesday night's game at Keyspan Park.

Jacob Eigsti. But relievers Josh Appel and David Koons completed the Cyclones' sweep of the Valley Cats' 12-3 win in the three innings, thanks to a Lucas Duda homer in the seventh, Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 16

Tri-City 7

Game 12, July 13, at Tri-City

Jacob Eigsti. But relievers Josh Appel and David Koons completed the Cyclones' sweep of the Valley Cats' 12-3 win in the three innings, thanks to a Lucas Duda homer in the seventh, Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 18

Spikes 1

July 14, at State College

A 1-1 pitchers' duel started after a scoreless first. The Cyclones' offense, which had scored in the first, second and third, belted a solo shot, his fourth. Will Vogl and Jacob Eigsti added RBI singles. Reliever Grant Hinson (1-1) picked up the win and closed. Stephen Clyne got the save.

Cyclones 16

Tri-City 7

Game 14, July 15, at State College

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 15, at State College

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 16

Tri-City 7

Game 15, July 16, at State College

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 16, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Crosscutters 1

July 17, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 18, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 19, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Crosscutters 1

July 20, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 21, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 22, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Crosscutters 1

July 23, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 24, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Crosscutters 1

July 25, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 26, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Crosscutters 1

July 27, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 28, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Crosscutters 1

July 29, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 30, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Crosscutters 1

July 31, at Keyspan Park

This blowout featured two RBIs by Joaquin Rodriguez and Christopher Fournier and

the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1) and a two-run Eigsti in the eighth, a Tatford RBI single and an Eigsti hit in the ninth.

Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 31, at Keyspan Park

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the Cyclones scored four runs

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Cyclones 15

Crosscutters 1

July 31, at Keyspan Park

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Cyclones 15

Spikes 1

July 31, at Keyspan Park

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the Cyclones scored four runs

in the first two innings and 10 in the last two, rapping out 22 hits in a slugfest. Jason Jacobs (3) and Jefferies Tatford (1)

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